

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT AND THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the Abstract of the disclosure and replace it with the following new Abstract:

The invention provides an immunoassay in which a water-sparingly-soluble protein in a sample, or a protein in a hardly extractable state, is extracted/solubilized with an aqueous solvent containing an ionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of sodium dodecyl sulfate, lithium dodecyl sulfate, sodium lauryl sarcosine, hexadecyltrimethyl ammonium bromide, hexadecyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, hexadecyl pyridinium chloride and a mixture thereof at a concentration of more than 0.3% (W/V), and then detected in the extract by the formation of the antigen-antibody complex between the protein and an antibody specific to the denatured protein treated with the same ionic surfactant as that used for the extraction/solubilization, thereby the detection can be carried out under the presence of more than 0.03% (W/V) of said ionic surfactant.

Please insert the following paragraph entitled "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" on page 1 of the specification after the Title of the Invention:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a national phase application filed under 35 U.S.C. §371 from PCT Application No. PCT/JP2004/002604, filed March 3, 2004, which claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. JP 2003-340412, filed September 30, 2003, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.